

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05

SS-15 STR-05 CEA-01 HUD-01 /109 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 102

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

AMCONSUL BELIZE PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON EAID EFIN BF

SUBJ: CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN

REF: A) STATE 278649, B) NASSAU 1840

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1. BAHAMAS WILL PARTICIPATE IN SUBJECT CONFERENCE (REF B)
AND WILL BE REPRESENTED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER
OF FINANCE ARTHUR D. HANNA; REGINALD L. WOOD, FINANCIAL
SECRETARY OF BAHAMAS CABINET; AND L. B. JOHNSON, BAHAMAS
AMBASSADOR TO U.S. AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UNITED
NATIONS. (FYI: HANNA AND WOOD MOST RECENTLY ATTENDED ANNUAL
IRBD SEPTEMBER MEETING IN WASHINGTON. END FYI)

2. WOOD, WHO IS COORDINATING BAHAMAS PARTICIPATION FOR DECEMBER 14-15 MEETING, INFORMED EMBOFF THAT BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY PREPARED A SHORT LIST OF PROJECTS FOR PRESENTATION. TOP PRIORITY ON THE LISTING IS PROJECT(S) FOR LOW COST HOUSING. AS TO RATIONAL FOR THIS PRIORITY, WOOD EXPLAINED, BAHAMAS HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - 22 PERCENT IS MOST RECENT ESTIMATE - IS PRINCIPLE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEM FACING THE BAHAMAS. LOW COST HOUSING BESIDES BEING OF ASSISTANCE IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIVING CONDITIONS WOULD BE MECHANISM FOR IMMEDIATELY GENERATING JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR.

3. WOOD EMPHASIZED THAT FOR DECEMBER AND APRIL 1978 MEETINGS TO BE SUCCESSFUL RECEIPT COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE BAHAMAS, MUST BE CONVINCED AT EARLY STAGE THAT TANGIBLE (VISIBLE) BENEFITS WILL BE FORTHCOMING. THIS IS ANOTHER RATIONAL FOR GIVING HIGH PRIORITY FOR LOW-COST HOUSING. WHILE BEING PREPARED TO IDENTIFY SEVERAL PROJECTS AT THE DECEMBER MEETING BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT HOPES TO CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS FOR NEXT ONE TO EIGHT MONTHS ONLY ON LOW COST HOUSING. THE GOODWILL GENERATED BY SUCCESSFUL INITIATION OF MAJOR LOW COST HOUSING PROJECT HERE WOULD EASE PRESSURE ON GOVERNMENT "TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT". AT A LATER DATE THE BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT COULD FOCUS ON OTHER PROJECTS.

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4. FINALLY, WOOD EMPHASIZES THAT WHILE REASONABLE WORLD BANK CRITERIA FOR GRANTING APPROVAL OF LOANS IS NECESSARY, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT CRITERIA ARE NOT SO BURDENSOME AS TO "DEFLATE" EXPECTATIONS AND USEFULNESS WHICH BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT FEELS CAN RESULT FROM THESE MEETINGS.

5. THE INDIVIDUAL IN MINISTRY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS WHO COORDINATES FOREIGN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, MRS. KATHY BENJAMIN, HAS INFORMED EMBOFF REF CONFERENCES WILL BE USEFUL MECHANISM TO COORDINATE BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT EFFORTS IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. MRS. BENJAMIN EMPHASIZES BAHAMAS HAS NOT YET FULLY RECOVERED FROM CUTS IN UNDP PROGRAM TWO YEARS AGO AND TO DATE HAS NOT YET FORMULATED ITS PRIORITIES FOR 1977-1981 UNDP PROGRAM.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, POLICIES, MEETING DELEGATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NASSAU01871
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770442-0529
Format: TEL
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977118/aaaaagua.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 591fb71e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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